

Changes Make Travel, Moves Less Costly for Military Members

Several changes in the 2002 National Defense Authorization Act are making moves and official travel less costly for service members.

Dislocation allowance — Paid when members with families are forced to move, it is improving in several ways.

(1) Previously, the allowance was paid only when a member made a PCS move. Now, members being forced to move out of government quarters at the government's convenience receive a partial dislocation allowance of \$500. The full allowance is generally equivalent to one month's BAH.

(2) Dual-service couples with no other family members and who are moving into government quarters may receive the dislocation allowance. Previous rules treated dual-service couples as two separate, single members — ineligible for the allowance.

(3) New service members may claim the dislocation allowance for moves to their first duty stations. They previously were ineligible.

Temporary Lodging Expense (TLE) — The new law increases the daily payment maximum rate from \$110 to \$180. TLE is limited to 10 days for moves to bases INCONUS while moving from one duty station to another.

Pet Quarantines — The reimbursement rate of pet quarantine costs for members moving to areas that require quarantine doubles from a maximum of \$275 to \$550.

Shipping a Second Vehicle — Service members moving from one duty station INCONUS to another can now ship a second vehicle to their new duty station. The new law will pay shipping costs for a second car up the amount it would have cost to drive the vehicle.

Frequent-Flier Miles — Federal employees, including military members, can keep frequent-flier miles and other promotional benefits airlines may offer travelers.



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